

I.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION All sections must be addressed, or the application will be considered invalid



	A.	Applicant l	Name:								
		Mailing Ac	ldress:								
		Telephone	e:	E-mail:							
	В.	Contact Po	erson (if different than applicant):							
		Telephone	»:	E-mail:							
	C.	Landowne	r and/or Lessee Name								
		Mailing Address:									
		Telephone): 	E-mail:							
II.	PR		ORMATION								
	A.	Project Na	nme:								
		River, stre	am, or lake:								
			Township:	Range:		Section:					
			Latitude:	Longitude:		within project (decimal degrees)					
		County: _									
	B.	Purpose o	f Project:								

ce of formation
salvage
_
ed area.

III.

EΑ	& Dike report ONLINE French Creek channel reconstruction
B.	How will the project protect or enhance wild fish habitat?
C.	Will the project improve fish populations and/or fishing? To what extent?
D.	Will the project increase public fishing opportunity for wild fish and, if so, how?
E.	The project agreement includes a 20-year maintenance commitment. Please discuss your ability to meet this commitment.
	to meet this communent.
	What was the cause of habitat degradation in the area of this project and how will the project
F.	correct the cause?

	G.	What public benefits will be realized from this project?
		The intact system will provide benefits to fish & wildlife, recreation, and the floodplain, as well as to the water supply of Butte, which sources 40% of its water from the Big Hole River (French Creek <deep creek<big="" hole="" river).<="" td=""></deep>
		Fish & Wildlife: Westslope cutthroat trout and Arctic grayling are slated to be restored to the French Creek drainage. Both Species are species of Concern in Montana and have been petitioned for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Large scale restoration projects such as the French Creek watershed project will aid in conserving these species and lessen the chances that they will warrant listing as a Threatened or Endangered Species. Preventing the listing of these species will benefit all Montanans, particularly private landowners in the Big Hole.
		Woody debris rootwads, channel bed shaping and mature transplants and sod mats will immediately improve fish and wildlife habitat in the project reach. After several seasons of overbank stream events in the new channel, floodplain and riparian habitat will be substantially improved. Wildlife habitat will also improve as a result of the restoration of the riparian area, with benefits multiple game species such as moose, elk, deer, and bear as well as non-game species such as Sandhill crane, beaver.
		Recreation: Opportunities for Montanans to observe, and in some cases harvest, wildlife species will be increased through the restoration of French Creek. Upon completion, this project will provide anglers the unique opportunity to fish for native species in healthy, functioning stream system that excludes normative fish species.
		Floodplain: This project will benefit French Creek's floodplain by creating 2700' of new channel with a hydrologically active floodplain. Almost 20 acres of floodplain is not currently mapped as riparian. These acres will become active parts of the floodplain post construction and likely convert to wetland.
*		(RESPONSE IN LARGER FONT AFTER SIGNATURE PAGE)
	Н.	Will the project interfere with water or property rights of adjacent landowners? (explain):
		No, the project is located entirely on public property (FWP Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area).
	I.	Will the project result in the development of commercial recreational use on the site? (explain):
		No.
	J.	Is this project associated with the reclamation of past mining activity?
		The dike and earthwork that created the impairment was likely related to mining activity in the
		watershed beginning in 1863. While the actual impairment is sediment from the high terrace, the location of the channel and restriction of the floodplain is related to mining activity.
		and recentled of the needfolder of the needfolder is related to mining activity.
Park	s sp	proved project applicant must enter into a written agreement with Montana Fish, Wildlife & ecifying terms and duration of the project. The applicant must obtain all applicable permits project construction. A competitive bid process must be followed when using State funds.
IV.	ΔΙΙ	THORIZING STATEMENT
	acc	e) hereby declare that the information and all statements to this application are true, complete, and urate to the best of my (our) knowledge and that the project or activity complies with rules of the ure Fisheries Improvement Program.
		are risheres improvement ringram.
Appli	cant	Signature:
Spon	sor ((if applicable):
Sub	mitta	Applications must be signed and received before December 1 and June 1 of each wants

Submi be considered for the subsequent funding period. Late or incomplete applications will be rejected.

Mail to:	Montana FWP Fish Management Bureau PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701	Email:	Michelle McGree mmcgree@mt.gov (electronic submissions must be signed) For files over 10MB, use https://transfer.mt.gov
A 1: 4:			

Applications may be rejected if this form is modified.

RESPONSE II C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Goals & Objectives:

- Reduce fine sediment loads in French Creek and Big Hole River.
- Restore French Creek where impacted by past mining & logging operations.
- Improve native fish and aquatics habitat.
- Reconnect floodplain & wetlands to surface water in lower French Creek.
- Restore public lands.
- Increase overbank deposition and groundwater recharge for late season base-flow.

The French Creek drainage, located on the Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area (WMA), was heavily placer mined for gold and logged for nearly a century, beginning in the 1860s. Its soils and waters were also contaminated by fallout emissions from nearby smelters. The French Creek drainage has been a priority area for watershed restoration to the Big Hole Watershed Committee (BHWC) as well as several State & Federal agencies and NGOs for the last five years due to the extensive damages caused to steep slope vegetation, stream form and function, and riparian health. Several projects have already been completed or are currently in progress in this area, and the entire French Creek drainage is slated for native fish restoration by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The proposed French Creek Sediment Reduction project will contribute substantial habitat improvements to the overall goals of native fish restoration in this watershed.

The proposed project will address mining-related damages to French Creek, which has been pinned against a high eroding bank by an unnatural dike feature, causing annual deposition of an estimated 800+ tons of sediment per year, affecting downstream fish and mussel habitat (see images in attachments where linear sagebrush vegetation marks dike location). Our restoration approach for this project is to replicate reference conditions in this reach by constructing an unconfined stream channel east of the channel's current location, connecting the unconfined reaches above and below the project area. Approximately 4000' of lineal feet of new stream channel will be constructed in the floodplain away from the hillslope. The new stream channel will be located in an area of healthy riparian vegetation. Native sods and existing willows and willow transplants will be used to construct the banks of the new stream channel. Bioengineered meander bends will also be used where native vegetation may be lacking to both temporarily ensure stability until vegetation is re-established and to create complex cover habitats. The existing floodplain and wetland vegetation in the restoration area will be incorporated into the design to provide cost effective and robust vegetation restoration. By placing new channel in degraded upland areas, and work on abandoned channel will establish new wetlands that will provide ecosystem benefits locally and also serve to mitigate for lost wetlands from the French Creek fish barrier project.

The project currently has secured funding from Montana DEQ that cover all coordination, monitoring, education/outreach, design, permitting, bidding and oversight costs, as well as some construction costs and mobilization (\$240,000). Assessment and design has been completed and initial design drawings and cost estimates are provided. BHWC and FWP are prepared to adjust project design details and construction costs with engineer to match available funding. Our target funding for the project is shown in the Match side of the budget sheet, while the engineers initial estimate is shown on the left side of the sheet. Project savings could be found by decreasing the among of bioengineering on banks and relying more on willows and sods. Funding from the Future Fisheries program would be used for the construction of the new channel. More details provided in the budget attachment. Other sources of funding- George Grant Trout Unlimited (\$5,000), Montana Trout Unlimited (\$5,000) have been secured and additional funding from The Nature Conservancy (\$47,000) has been verbally but not officially committed. Additional savings will be found by contracting this project with our Oregon Creek project upstream, saving on mobilization and bonding costs.

Once Arctic grayling and Westslope Cutthroat trout are restored, French Creek will represent the second largest interconnected stream system (over 40 miles of stream) in the upper Missouri River drainage with a native fish community. This project may also contribute to the restoration of Western Pearlshell mussels to French Creek once water quality and aquatic and riparian habitat have improved.

RESPONSE TO SECTION III G. WHAT PUBLIC BENEFITS WILL BE REALIZED FROM THIS PROJECT?

The intact system will provide benefits to fish & wildlife recreation, and the floodplain, as well as to the water supply of Butte, which sources 40% of its water from the Big Hole River (French Creek<Deep Creek<Big Hole River).

Fish & Wildlife: Westslope cutthroat trout and Arctic grayling are slated to be restored to the French Creek drainage. Both species are Species of Concern in Montana and have been petitioned for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Large scale restoration projects such as the French Creek watershed project will aid in conserving these species and lessen the chances that they will warrant listing as a Threatened or Endangered species. Preventing the listing of these species will benefit all Montanans, particularly private landowners in the Big Hole.

Woody debris rootwads, channel bed shaping, and mature transplants and sod mats will immediately improve fish and wildlife habitat in the project reach. After several reasons of overbank stream events in the new channel, floodplain and riparian habitat will be substantially improved. Wildlife habitat will also improve as a result of the restoration of the riparian area, with benefits multiple game species such as moose, elk, deer, and bear as well as non-game species such as Sandhill crane, beaver.

Recreation: Opportunities for Montanans to observe, and in some cases harvest, wildlife species will be increased through the restoration of French Creek. Upon completion, this project will provide anglers the unique opportunity to fish for native species in a healthy, functioning stream system that excludes nonnative fish species.

Floodplain: This project will benefit French Creek's floodplain by creating 2700' of new channel with a hydrologically active floodplain. Almost 20 acres of floodplain is not currently mapped as riparian. These acres will become active parts of the floodplain post construction and likely convert to wetland.

Post Office Box 21 Divide, MT 59727 (406) 960-4855 info@bhwc.org



May 31, 2019

Michelle McGree Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Fisheries Division PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701

Dear Montana FWP,

Please accept the Big Hole Watershed Committee's submission of a Future Fisheries grant proposal. Our request supports the reduction of sediment inputs into French Creek on the Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area in the Big Hole River watershed. These habitat improvements will be crucial for a larger fish introduction project.

An electronic version of these files were emailed to mmcgree@mt.gov via the State File Transfer Service.

Our Application includes:

- Future Fisheries Final Proposal Form PDF, signed
- Attachments:
 - o Letters of Support
 - o Big Hole River Watershed Project Location
 - o French Creek Project Files
 - Project Budget
 - Final Design Sheets
 - MFWP EA Decision Notice
 - Cultural Inventory- Dike report
 - Project Images
 - Recommendation to Contract

Thank you and MFWP staff for assisting us with this application and all our efforts in the Big Hole.

Sincerely,

Pedro Marques Executive Director

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Both tables must be completed or the application will be returned

Permitting + Delineation					•	CONTRIBUTIONS				
Survey	CATEGORY)			COST/UNIT	TOTAL COST			IN-KIND CASH		TOTAL
Design	Personnel***									
Permitting + Delineation	-			\$5,800.00	\$5,800.00			5,800.00	\$	5,800.00
Cultural Survey				\$29,200.00	\$29,200.00			29,200.00	\$	29,200.00
Oversight+Staking									\$	10,500.00
Wetland Seed	-							· ·	\$	
BHWC Admin	g g									33,942.00
BHWC Monitoring					· '			· ·		•
BHWC Outreach, Education				·				· ·		
Sub-Total \$123,093.00 \$ - \$ - \$ 123,093.00 \$ 123,093.0								· ·		
Mileage	BHWC Outreach, Education	1		· ·				-l		·
Mileage				Sub-Total	\$123,093.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 123,093.00	\$	123,093.00
Sub-Total Sub-							T			
Sub-Total \$ -					·					-
Taxes, Bonds, and Insurance General Requirements	Per diem				'					-
Taxes, Bonds, and Insurance General Requirements 1				Sub-Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
Separable Sepa	_						1			
Sub-Total \$19,280.00 \$ - \$ - \$ 19,280.00 \$ 10,000 \$ 10,	•	1	LS	\$11,000.00	· ·			· ·		
Sub-Total \$19,280.00 \$ - \$ - \$ 19,280.00 \$ 19,280.00	General Requirements	1	LS	\$8,280.00	\$8,280.00			8,280.00		8,280.00
Equipment and Labor Water & Erosion Control 1 LS \$8,312.00 \$8,312.00 \$0.00 \$8,312.00 Earthwork 1 LS \$86,000.00 \$80,00 \$86,000.00 \$86,000.00 \$80,00 \$86,000.00 \$86,000.00 \$812,500.00 \$812,576.00 \$812,576.00 \$812,576.00									<u> </u>	-
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Earthwork										
Import Streambed Material 3000 CY \$7.60 \$22,800.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$22,800.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,645.00 \$0.00 \$23,670.00 \$0.00		1	LS	\$8,312.00	·	\$8,312.00				8,312.00
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Point Bar Streambanks Woody Habitat Structure Abandoned Channel Plug Topsoil/Vegetation Salvaging & Stockpiling Revegetation Root wad delivery FWP Habitat work- fish and barrier Point Bar Streambanks 2015 LF \$10.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$20,150.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$23,670.00 \$24,670.00 \$24,670.00 \$24,670.00 \$24,670.00 \$24,670.00 \$24,670.00 \$24,670.00 \$24,670.00 \$25,7500.00 \$26,670	•	3000	CY	\$7.60	\$22,800.00	\$22,800.00		\$0.00	\$	22,800.00
Woody Habitat Structure 16 EA \$786.00 \$12,576.00 \$12,576.00 \$12,576.00 \$12,576.00 \$22,960.00 Abandoned Channel Plug 2 EA \$11,480.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$22,960.00 \$23,700.00 <td< td=""><td></td><td>1150</td><td>LF</td><td>\$22.30</td><td>\$25,645.00</td><td></td><td></td><td>\$25,645.00</td><td>\$</td><td>25,645.00</td></td<>		1150	LF	\$22.30	\$25,645.00			\$25,645.00	\$	25,645.00
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Topsoil/Vegetation Salvaging & 1 LS \$57,340.00 \$57,340.	Woody Habitat Structure	16	EA	\$786.00	\$12,576.00			\$12,576.00	\$	12,576.00
Topsoil/Vegetation Salvaging & 1 LS \$57,340.00 \$57,340.	Abandoned Channel Plug	2	EA	\$11,480.00	\$22,960.00			\$22,960.00	\$	22,960.00
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Revegetation 1 LS \$28,670.00 \$28,670.00 \$28,670.00 \$0.00 \$28,670.00 Root wad delivery 1 LS \$7,500.00 \$7,500.00 \$7,500.00 \$7,500.00 FWP Habitat work- fish and barrier 1 LS \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00	Stockpiling	1	LS	\$57,340.00	\$57,340.00			\$57,340.00	\$	57,340.00
Root wad delivery 1 LS \$7,500.00 \$7,500.00 \$7,500.00 \$7,500.00 FWP Habitat work- fish and barrier 1 LS \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00		1	LS	\$28,670.00	· ·	\$28,670.00				·
FWP Habitat work- fish and barrier 1 LS \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00		1			· ·	,.	I			*
barrier 1 LS \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00 \$11,000.00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-		`	ψ.,σσσ.σσ			Ψ.,000.00	_	1,000.00
		1	LS	\$11,000.00	\$11.000.00			\$11.000.00	\$	11,000.00
					\$302,953.00	\$79,932.00	\$0.00			\$302,953.00

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

<u>Mobilization</u>								
Mobilization/Demobilization	1	LS	\$15,072.00	\$15,072.00			\$15,072.00	\$15,072.00
				\$ -				
Additional Wetland Area								
<u>Creation</u>	_							
9 areas	1	LS		\$132,634.00			\$126,264.00	\$126,264.00
								\$0.00
		_						
			TOTALS	\$593,032.00	\$79,932.00	\$0.00	\$506,730.00	\$586,662.00

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

All of the columns in the budget table and the matching contribution table MUST be completed appropriately or the application will be invalid. Please see the example budget sheet for additional clarification.

Reminder: Government salaries cannot be used as in-kind match

MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS (do not include requested funds)

	_ `			5. 5 5 to 5.		
CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KINI	D SERVICE	IN	-KIND CASH	TOTAL	Secured? (Y/N)
Montana DEQ	\$	-	\$	240,000.00	\$ 240,000.00	Yes
Montana DEQ Additional Funds	\$	-	\$	45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	Yes
Montana Trout Unlimited	\$	-	\$	5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Yes
George Grant Trout Unlimited	\$	-	\$	5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Yes
The Nature Conservancy	\$	-	\$	29,000.00	\$ 29,000.00	No
Bureau of Reclamation	\$	-	\$	86,610.00	\$ 86,610.00	No
In-Kind (Montana FWP- landowner agreement, permitting, coordination and						
other habitat work)			\$	15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	Yes
In-kind BLM- donation of root wads			\$	7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	Yes
Wildlife Conservation Society			\$	56,570.00	\$ 56,570.00	Yes
The Nature Conservancy- Gage equipment	\$	-	\$	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Yes
	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$	-	\$	490,680.00	\$ 490,680.00	

^{*}Units = feet, hours, inches, etc. Do not use lump sum unless there is no other way to describe the costs.

^{**}Can include in-kind materials. Justification for in-kind labor (e.g. hourly rates used for calculations). Describe here or in text.

^{***}The Review Panel suggests that design and oversight costs associated with a proposed project not exceed 15% of the total project budget. If design and oversight costs are in excess of 15%, applications must include a minimum of two competitive bids for the cost of undertaking the project.

^{****}The Review Panel recommends a maximum fencing cost of \$1.50 per foot. Additional costs may be the responsibility of the applicant and/or partners.

















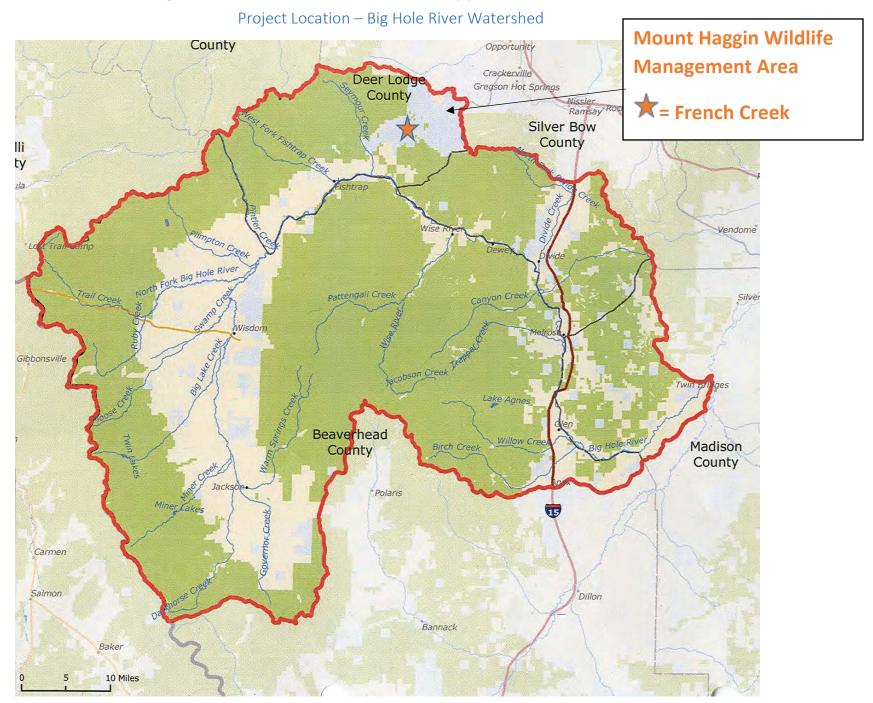


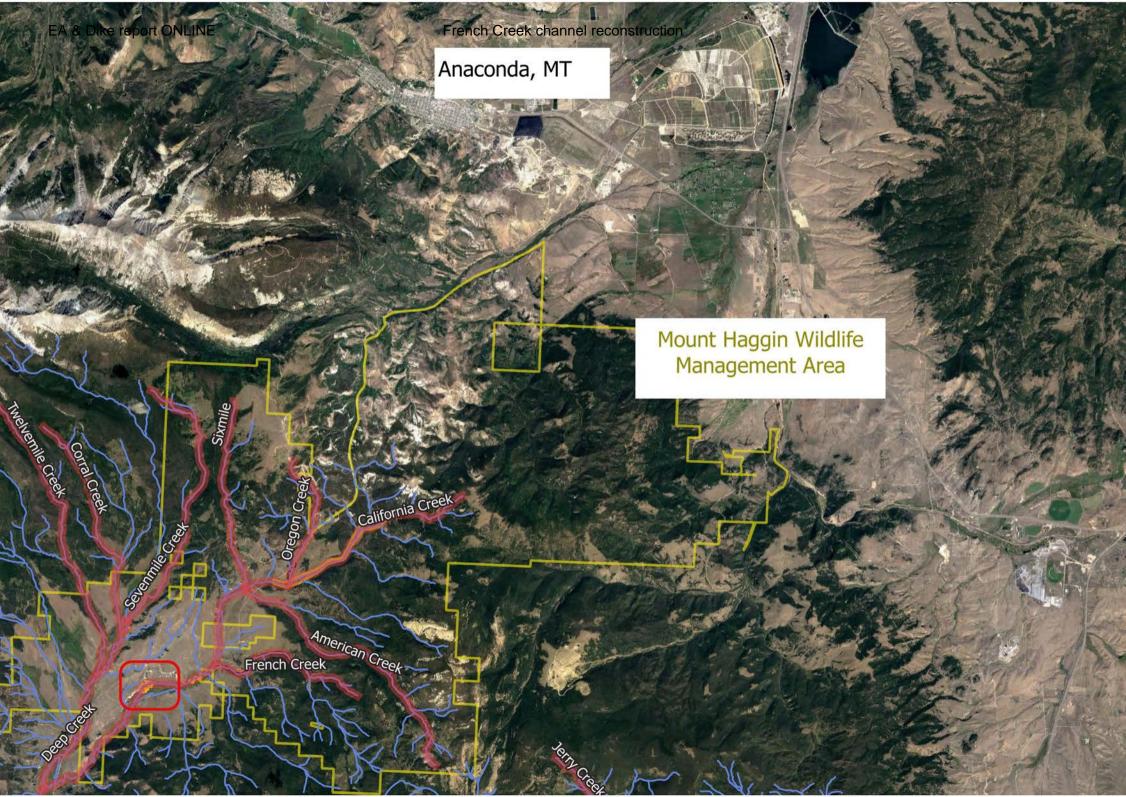


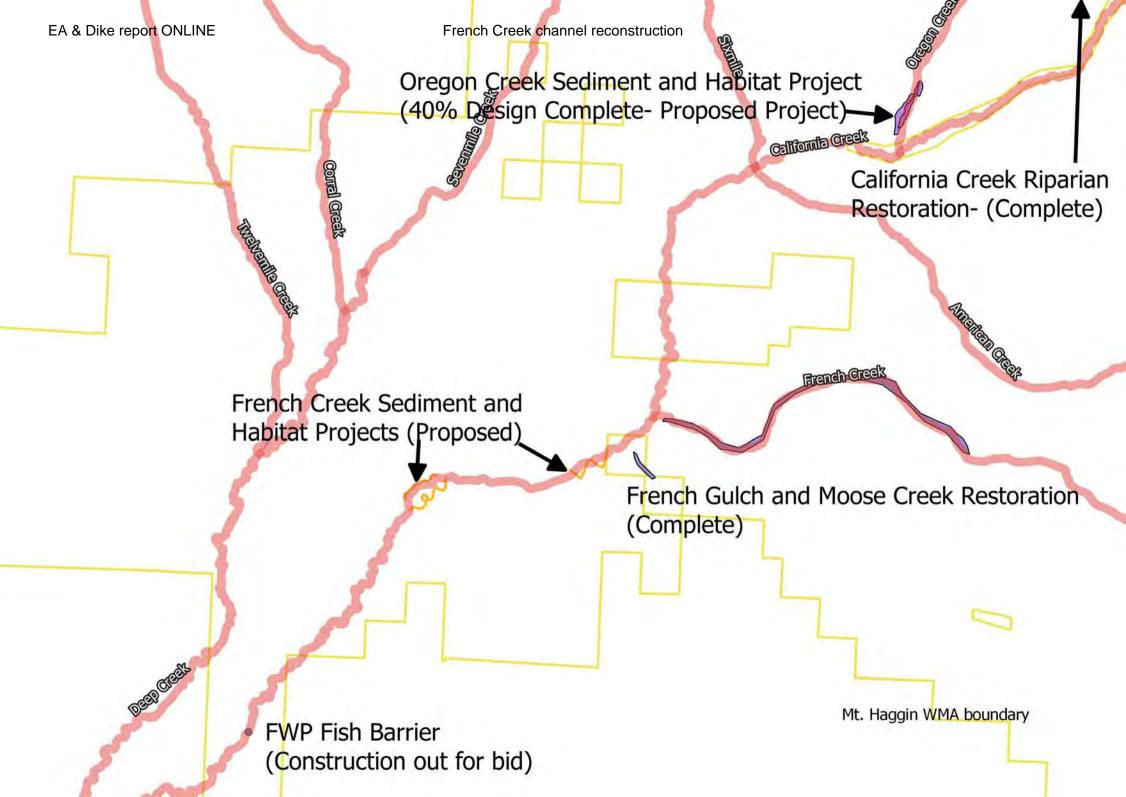




2018 Big Hole Watershed Committee FF Application – French Creek







May 30, 2018

FFIP Review panel

Dear Pannel,

I am writing this letter in support of the Big Hole Watershed Committee's application for funding to restore reaches of French Creek that are suffering from significant streambank erosion. Significant channel alteration occurred in this reach of stream in the early 1900's (prior to 1940) where the stream appears to have been channelized and directed toward a work area. Historical records are unclear on the type of work that went on at this area. The stream has abandoned this straightened channel is attempting to reestablish itself. This his causing massive bank erosion and sedimentation (see photo below). Further the stream flows along the base of large chalky bluffs and is constantly eroding the toe of these slopes causing material fall into the stream. The stream channel downstream of this reach is choked with fine sediments from this high erosion area.



The potential solution for reducing long-term erosion of the site is to relocate the stream channel to a section of the floodplain with a flourishing riparian area. This area has abundant willows and sedges and would be an excellent area to for channel establishment. The potential benefits of the project will be significant reduction in sediment entering French Creek. Also, there would likely be improvements in aquatic habitat because the large sediment loads are

filling pools and clogging gravels. Reduced sediment would benefit spawning fish, aquatic invertebrates and pearlshell mussels.

The French Creek drainage has been a priority area for watershed restoration in the Big Hole River drainage. Work is currently underway in the headwaters (California Creek) to improve water quality affected by atmospheric deposition from the Anaconda Smelter. French Gulch which was heavily impacted by placer mining was also restored in 2016. French Creek is also slated for native fish restoration including Arctic grayling and westslope cutthroat trout. Native salmonids are not as tolerant to habitat alterations and fine sediment loading as non-native brook trout. Once restored to a native fish population, French Creek will represent the second largest interconnected stream system (over 40 miles of stream) in the upper Missouri River drainage with a native fish community. The project will also result in advancing the goal of restoring westslope cutthroat trout to 400 miles of stream in the Big Hole Drainage (Statewide Fisheries Management Plan 2011). French Creek is also home to a native population of pearlshell mussels. Pearlshell mussels have been documented downstream of the project area, but their numbers are few. It is likely that the altered habitat conditions and fine sediment inputs from upstream reaches limits mussel populations in the area. It may be possible to restore pearlshell mussels to French Creek once water quality and aquatic and riparian habitat is improved.

The collaboration between FWP, the Big Hole Watershed Committee and other partners to improve the water quality and fisheries of French Creek and its tributaries represents a huge step in the right direction in this area. While substantial healing has occurred over the past 100 years, there are still significant problems that are causing degradation of water quality. Many of these problems can be fixed with proper restoration. Efforts such as those proposed in this application will make great strides in reducing fine sediment loading to French Creek. I would hope that FFIP funds this grant proposal because of the potential improvements to water quality and stream and floodplain function of the area.

Sincerely,

Jim Olsen
Fisheries Biologist
Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks



May 24, 2018

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Fisheries Division PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701

Dear Ms. McGree,

Please accept this letter of support for the Big Hole Watershed Committee's proposal to restore an altered section of French Creek. The Watershed Protection Section (WPS) at the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) administers Clean Water Act Section 319 funding to address nonpoint sources of pollution impairing the state's water quality. WPS has an annual call for proposals and review internally and by an inter-agency review panel. In 2017, WPS elected to fund this project on French Creek for \$240,000 based on anticipated funding from the Environmental Protection Agency. Additional funding is necessary for the project to meet its proposed objectives and 319 match requirements.

French Creek is currently water quality impaired by excess fine sediment impacting aquatic life beneficial uses, including macroinvertebrates and native cold-water fish. Streambank erosion is a major source of sediment in French Creek and the TMDL requires a 36% reduction in anthropogenic causes of erosion to meet beneficial uses. This project will go a long way toward meeting target by addressing historical channel alterations that confine French Creek against a large eroding bank contributing tons of sediment annually. This project fits into a broad watershed approach to addressing sediment impairments from the headwaters downstream – including recent projects in California Creek, Moose Creek, and further upstream in French Creek. The Watershed Restoration Plan for the Middle-Lower Big Hole identifies French Creek as a priority for stream restoration. WPS encourages funding this proposal to improve water quality, promote natural stream functions, and restore a native fishery to this watershed.

Sincerely,

Dean Yashan, Section Supervisor
MDEQ, Watershed Protection Section

1520 E 6th Ave

Helena, MT 59601 Email: dyashan@mt.gov

(406) 444-5317

Phil Ralston
Ralston Ranch
54289 MT Hwy 43
Wise River, MT 59762
September 14, 2017

Montana Department of Environmental Quality PO Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620

Dear Montana DEQ,

I would like to communicate my support for the Big Hole Watershed committee's project to restore French Creek through the 319 application process.

Ralston Ranch is my family's cattle ranch and it is the only operating ranch in the Deep Creek drainage. My family began ranching here in 1886. The ranch property is located at the lower end of Deep Creek, and on the Big Hole River near Deep Creek which includes two miles of Deep Creek frontage and 4 miles of Big Hole River frontage. Ralston Ranch borders both Mt. Haggin Wildlife Management Area, and US Forest Service. I have a grazing lease for cattle on the Mt. Haggin Wildlife Management Area.

I have been a board member and supporter of the Big Hole Watershed Committee since its inception in 1995. Ralston Ranch is enrolled in the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) program for restoration of arctic grayling. I welcomed the first restoration project completed under the CCAA program in 1998.

The entire upper drainage affected by the Anaconda Smelter fallout have long been a problem and its repair is of interest to me. The sediment wash from California Creek that enters the stream is very fine. In a heavy rain event white sediment from California Creek uplands enters the stream and washes down through Deep Creek and enters the Big Hole River. This sediment stays suspended in the river for miles. When placer mining was active in the entire drainage, similar white sediment washed downstream turning the water white. French Creek gulch and First Chance gulch were part of this placer mining, seasonally until the mid 1950's.

The Big Hole Watershed Committee has tried to bring attention to the significant impairments on Mt. Haggin since 2000. Working with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and others to repair California Creek and the hillsides, French Gulch and Moose Creek have already made noticeable improvements to the land and water. I have seen a significant improvement in the water quality in lower Deep Creek in the last twenty years, and in the last couple of years there has been no evidence of the white, chalky water flowing by the ranch.

I urge Montana DEQ to support the Big Hole Watershed Committee's request to support the French Creek's repair. Its location at the headwaters of the Deep Creek drainage makes this a critical piece to watershed health and quality.

Sincerely

Phil Ralston

French Greek Dehannel Green patry ction

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

800 South Main



September 18, 2017

Montana Department of Environmental Quality Non-Point Source 319 Funding PO Box 200901 Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Montana DEQ,

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County (ADLC) would like to pledge its support for stream restoration work on French Creek in the Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area. We support the partnership and efforts of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Big Hole Watershed Committee to complete this work. We strongly encourage the non-point source 319 program to fund the proposed work.

The French Creek portion of work will build upon successful restoration upstream in French Gulch, Moose Creek, and California Creek all of which now have rebuilt natural streams, connected floodplains, increased natural water storage, reduced sediment loads, and improved fish and wildlife habitat. The proposed French Creek work will continue to support a transformation on the state owned land from historic damage of Anaconda Company Smelter operations to a thriving ecosystem.

ADLC has had an opportunity to review the work recently completed in the French Gulch-Moose Creek drainages. We are very impressed by the results and encouraged that restoration of these watersheds can be accomplished as rapidly and cost-effectively as already demonstrated. 319 funding is a key factor in this success and we encourage continued support of these restoration efforts by MDEQ through this grant program.

As you may be aware, USEPA Region 8 is proposing a waiver/relaxation of state water quality standards for a number of high elevation watersheds in the County due to the "technical infeasibility" of implementing effective best management practices in these mountainous areas. The success of work performed in the French Gulch and Moose Creek drainages by the Big Hole Watershed Committee and its partners clearly demonstrates otherwise. Again, we strongly support continued funding of these restoration activities.

Respectfully,

Chas Ariss, PE

Public Works-Planning Director-County Engineer

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County



George Grant TU PO Box 563 Butte, MT 59703

Cold Clean Fishable Water

Montana Department of Environmental Quality Non-Point Source 319 Funding PO Box 200901 Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Montana DEQ.

The George Grant Chapter of Trout Unlimited (GGTU) would like to pledge our support for stream restoration work on French Creek on the Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area. We support the partnership and efforts of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Big Hole Watershed Committee to complete this work and we encourage the non-point source 319 program to fund the proposed work.

The French Creek portion of work will build upon successful restoration upstream in French Gulch, Moose Creek, and California Creek all of which have rebuilt natural streams, connected floodplains, increased natural water storage, reduced sediment loads, and improved fish and wildlife habitat. The proposed French Creek work will continue to support a transformation on the state owned land from historic damage to a thriving ecosystem.

Projects like this and specifically this project fits perfectly with our mission statement to: Conserve, Protect and Restore cold water fisheries and their watersheds in southwest Montana. In fact, GGTU has been supporting this work with funding and volunteer hours to remediate and restore the drainage. Not only does it benefit the fisheries resource it also provides jobs in our area. There's no reason to continue to pollute the Big Hole River. It's not going to get better without help. Now is the time to fund and complete the project. *Cold, Clean, Fishable Water* benefits everyone in the Big Hole Value.

Thank you.

Roy Morris Past President George Grant TU PO Box 563 Butte, MT 59703 president@ggtu.org 406-491-4255

September 14, 2017

Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Non-Point Source 319 Funding
PO Box 200901
Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Montana DEQ,

As a local fly fisherman living close to French Creek I support the restoration work being done on French Creek in the Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area. I bought property in 1982 and built our home in 1990 a mile from French Creek and I fish the creek as often as I can. Over the years I have seen a big improvement in the fishery since restoration work has been done in the French Creek drainage on the Wildlife Management Area.

I support the partnership and efforts of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Big Hole Watershed Committee to continue their restoration work on this valuable fishery. I hope the non-point source 319 program will fund the proposed work. I have seen the clay banks eroding, discoloring the stream and having an impact on the fishery.

Other work already completed in French Gulch, the California uplands and California Creek have rebuilt natural stream channels and greatly reduced sediment loads in the creek. All this previous work has improved fish and wildlife habitat. I have noticed the fish are in better condition and larger than they have been prior to the restoration work that has been completed.

I would hope funding will be provided to continue restoration work on this fishery. I have seen an increase in the number of grayling being caught since sediment loads have been greatly reduce after completion of past restoration work. I've also noticed the health and condition of westslope cutthroat, brooktrout and rainbow trout has also improved.

Approval of funding under the non-point source 319 program will help in continuing the restoration work in French Creek.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Olson

524 Wolf Ridge Road

Wise River, MT 59762

Sunrise Fly Shop 472 Main St Melrose, MT 59743 sunriseflyshop.com

Montana Department of Environmental Quality Non-Point Source 319 Funding PO Box 200901 Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Montana DEQ,

I would like to pledge my support for stream restoration work on French Creek on the Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area. I support the partnership and efforts of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Big Hole Watershed Committee to complete this work. I encourage the non-point source 319 program to fund the proposed work.

The French Creek portion of work will build upon successful restoration upstream in French Gulch, Moose Creek, and California Creek all of which have rebuilt natural streams, connected floodplains, increased natural water storage, reduced sediment loads, and improved fish and wildlife habitat. The proposed French Creek work will continue to support a transformation on the state owned land from historic damage to a thriving ecosystem.

Montana's fishing industry brings millions of dollars to State's economy every year. The success of the fishing and outfitting industries are dependent on healthy fish and naturally reproducing fish populations. Without clean water and thriving riparian habitats, healthy populations of fish cannot exist. The restoration work on French Creek will help to improve the overall water quality of the Big Hole River, which will insure future generations of healthy fish.

The Big Hole River is the lifeblood of all Big Hole Valley communities. Improving the overall health of the Big Hole Watershed directly benefits all the Big Hole River's rural communities.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric Thorson

Co-Owner of Sunrise Fly Shop





1 ENGINEERING PLACE • P.O. BOX 6147 • HELENA, MT 59604 406.442.3050 • www.m-m.net

May 24, 2019

Pedro Marques Big Hole Watershed Committee PO Box 21 Divide, MT 59727

RE: Lower French Creek& Oregon Creek Restoration Award Recommendation

Dear Pedro:

Construction bids were opened for the Lower French & Oregon Creek Restoration Project on May 23, 2019 at 12pm. There were two qualified bidders. We have reviewed the bid information submitted and found Watershed Consulting, LLC to be the lowest responsible bidder. The bid amount submitted was \$298,785.00.00 for Schedule 1 – Lower French Creek and \$94,013.80 for Schedule 2 – Oregon Creek. The total base bid is \$392,798.80 for both schedules. The certified bid tabulations with all bid amounts is attached.

Upon your approval we will proceed with preparing a Notice of Award form to issue to the lowest responsible bidder. Once the Notice of Award have been issued we will prepare the required number of construction contracts and facilitate execution of the Agreement and required documentation. We will then return bid bonds to the unsuccessful bidders once the Agreement is executed between the Contractor and Big Hole Watershed Committee.

When the executed Agreement is complete we will schedule a pre-construction meeting with yourself, the Contractor and their subs to discuss the project schedule, Notice to Proceed, and other project coordination items.

We are excited to assist with the construction of this project.

Sincerely,

MORRISON-MAIERLE, INC.

Matt Barnes, PE, CFM

Project Manager

Attachments: Bid Tabulations

R:\5406-BHWC\00401\05 Bidding\Bid Award\French-Oregon_Award Recommendation.docx

We create solutions that build better communities.



Lower French Creek & Oregon Creek Restoration Big Hole Watershed Committee

	Lower French Creek - Schedule 1			Engineer's	s Estimate	Watershed	Consulting	Mungas Co	onstruction	
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	EST. QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE	
101	Taxes, Bonds, and Insurance	1	LS	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$13,877.20	\$13,877.20	
102	General Requirements	1	LS	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$8,280.00	\$8,280.00	\$11,101.76	\$11,101.76	
103	Mobilization/Demobilization	1	LS	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,072.00	\$15,072.00	\$13,877.20	\$13,877.20	
104	Water & Erosion Control	1	LS	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$8,312.00	\$8,312.00	\$6,954.22	\$6,954.22	
105	Earthwork	1	LS	\$180,000.00	\$180,000.00	\$86,000.00	\$86,000.00	\$95,533.68	\$95,533.68	
106	Import Streambed Material	3,000	CY	\$20.00	\$60,000.00	\$7.60	\$22,800.00	\$33.88	\$101,640.00	
107	Willow Streambanks	1,150	LF	\$15.00	\$17,250.00	\$22.30	\$25,645.00	\$9.98	\$11,477.00	
108	Wood Habitat Structure	16	EA	\$200.00	\$3,200.00	\$786.00	\$12,576.00	\$453.18	\$7,250.88	
109		2	EA	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$11,480.00	\$22,960.00	\$7,503.73	\$15,007.46	
110	Topsoil/Vegetation Salvaging & Stockpiling	1	LS	\$19,500.00	\$19,500.00	\$57,340.00	\$57,340.00	\$16,223.51	\$16,223.51	
111	Revegetation	1	LS	\$22,046.00	\$22,046.00	\$28,670.00	\$28,670.00	\$23,232.84	\$23,232.84	
112	Excavator Time	1	HR	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$130.00	\$130.00	\$220.10	\$220.10	
	SCH. 1 BID TOTAL		-		\$371,996.00		\$298,785.00		\$316,395.85	
					•	•	•			

	Oregon Creek - Schedule 2			Engineer's Estimate		Watershed	Consulting	Mungas Construction	
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	EST. QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE
201	Taxes, Bonds, and Insurance	1	LS	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,639.65	\$3,639.65
202	General Requirements	1	LS	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,911.72	\$2,911.72
203	Mobilization/Demobilization	1	LS	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$6,518.00	\$6,518.00	\$3,639.65	\$3,639.65
204	Water & Erosion Control	1	LS	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,860.00	\$2,860.00	\$4,608.40	\$4,608.40
205	Earthwork - Floodplain	1	LS	\$36,000.00	\$36,000.00	\$15,433.00	\$15,433.00	\$30,014.92	\$30,014.92
206	Stream Channel Shaping	1,370	LF	\$5.00	\$6,850.00	\$14.45	\$19,796.50	\$5.12	\$7,014.40
207	Detention Ridge	1,010	LF	\$10.00	\$10,100.00	\$19.83	\$20,028.30	\$13.08	\$13,210.80
208	Topsoil/Vegetation Salvaging & Stockpiling	1	LS	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00	\$6,793.00	\$6,793.00	\$8,405.34	\$8,405.34
209	Revegetation	1	LS	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$16,385.00	\$16,385.00	\$9,546.63	\$9,546.63
	SCH. 2 BID TOTAL		\$97,950.00		\$94,013.80		\$82,991.51		

COMPLETE PROJECT BID TOTAL	\$469.946.00	\$392,798,80	\$399.387.36 l
	Ψ-100,0-10.00	Ψ002,100.00	ψοσο,σσ1.σσ

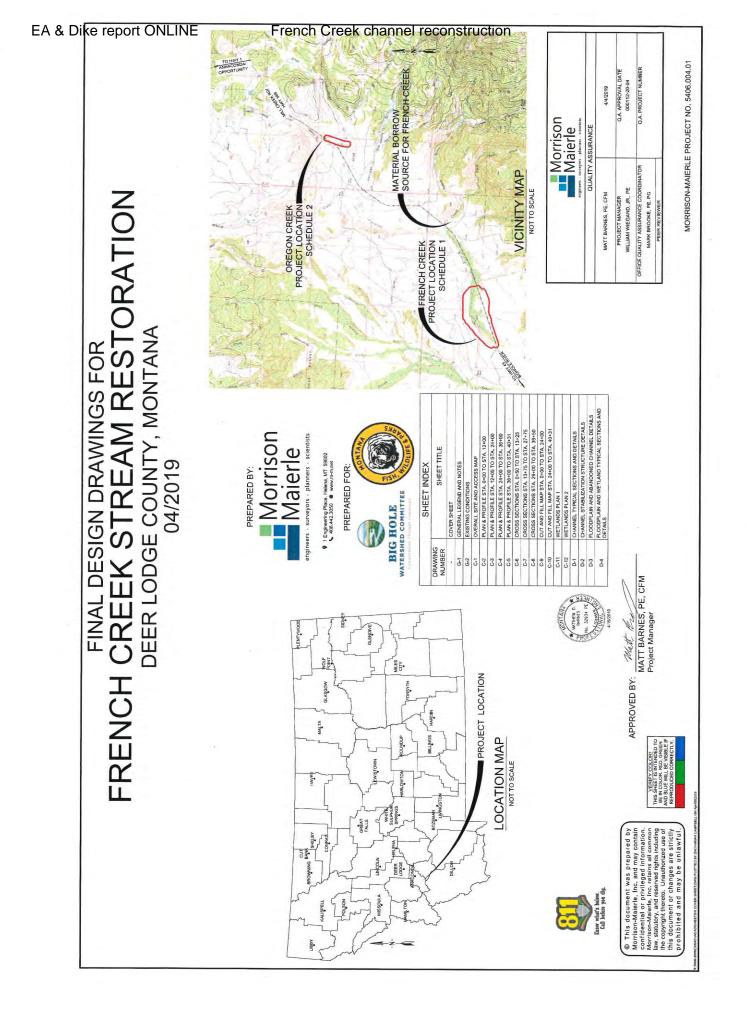
	Additive Alternates			Engineer's	s Estimate	Watershed	Consulting	Mungas Co	onstruction
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	EST. QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL EST. PRICE
	Wetlands Creation Area #1	1	LS	-	-	\$7,560.00	\$7,560.00	\$3,024.00	\$3,024.00
	Wetlands Creation Area #2	1	LS	-	-	\$15,457.00	\$15,457.00	\$7,088.00	\$7,088.00
	Wetlands Creation Area #3	1	LS	-	•	\$4,950.00	\$4,950.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00
	Wetlands Creation Area #4	1	LS	-		\$18,854.00	\$18,854.00	\$4,740.00	\$4,740.00
	Wetlands Creation Area #5	1	LS	-	-	\$23,334.00	\$23,334.00	\$9,660.00	\$9,660.00
	Wetlands Creation Area #6	1	LS	-		\$10,304.00	\$10,304.00	\$3,024.00	\$3,024.00
	Wetlands Creation Area #7	1	LS	-	-	\$7,357.00	\$7,357.00	\$2,688.00	
	Wetlands Creation Area #8	1	LS	-	-	\$32,084.00	\$32,084.00	\$9,150.00	\$9,150.00
	Wetlands Creation Area #9	1	LS	-	-	\$12,734.00	\$12,734.00	\$2,160.00	\$2,160.00
	ADD. ALTERNATE TOTAL						\$132,634.00		\$43,184.00

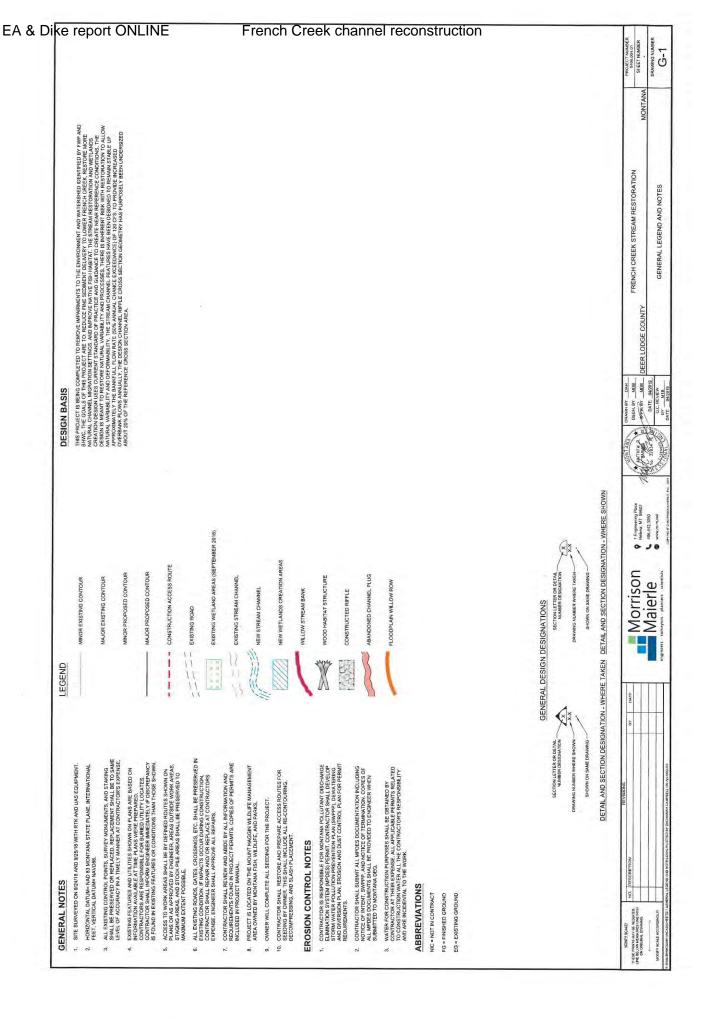
The tabulation of bids herein is a true representation of the bids received on May 23rd, 2019.

Matt Barnes, PE, CFM Morrison-Maierle, Inc.

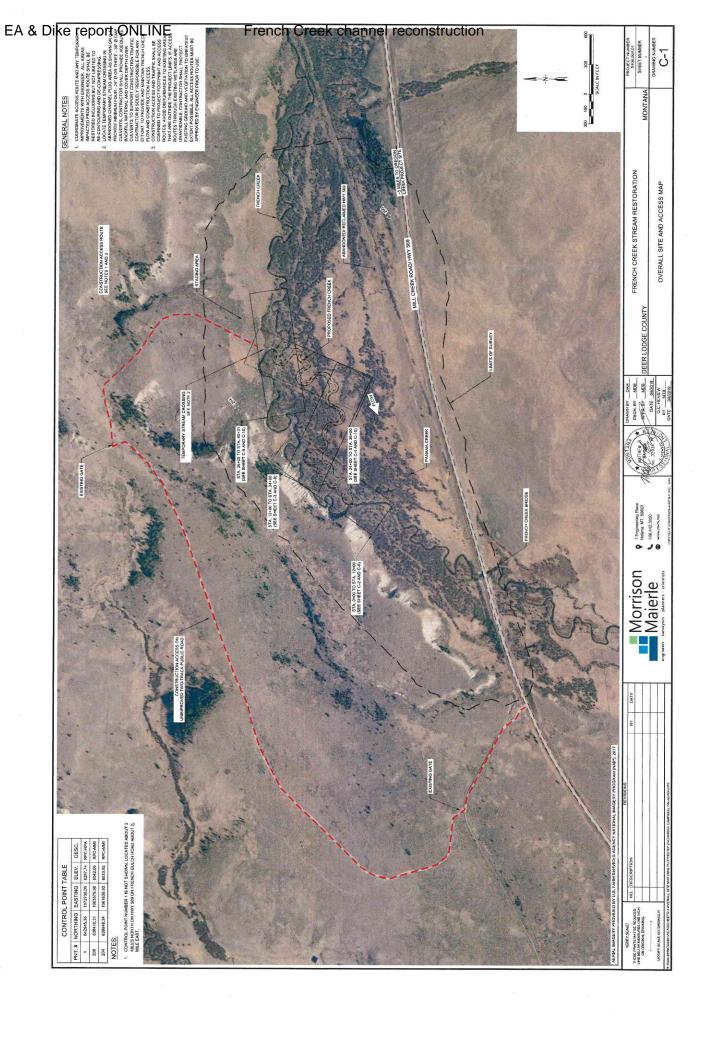
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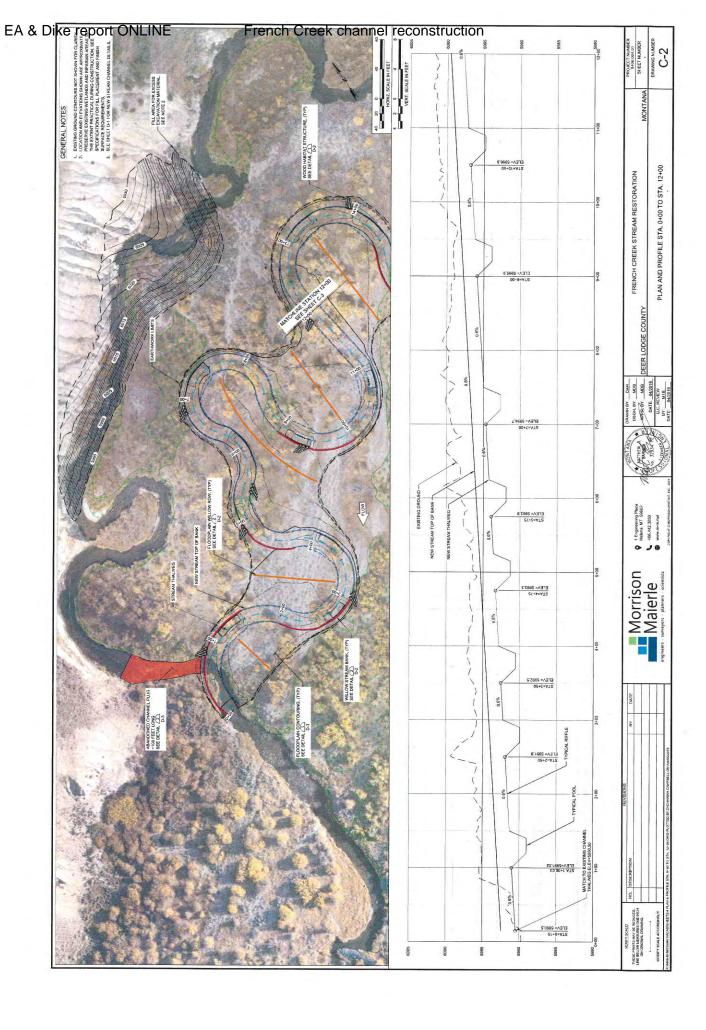


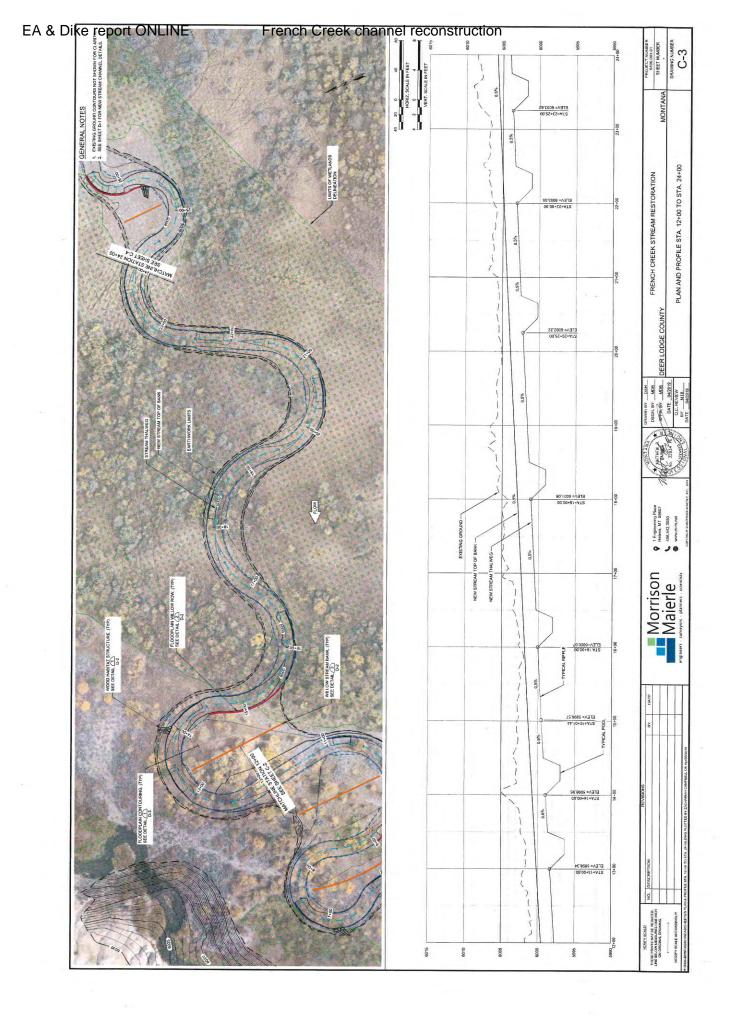


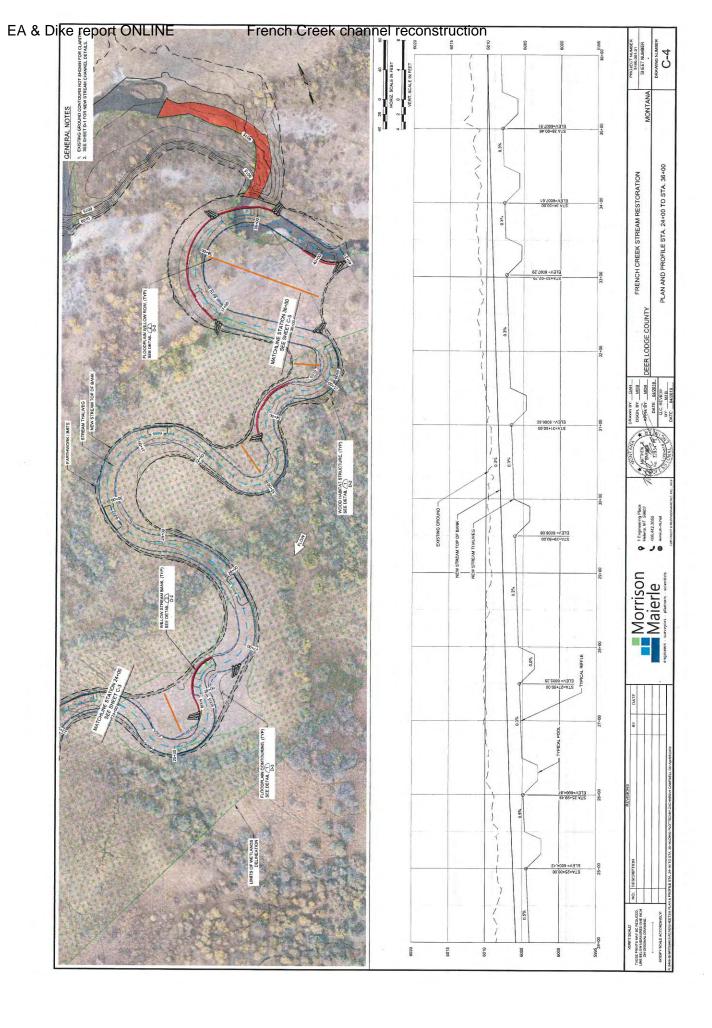


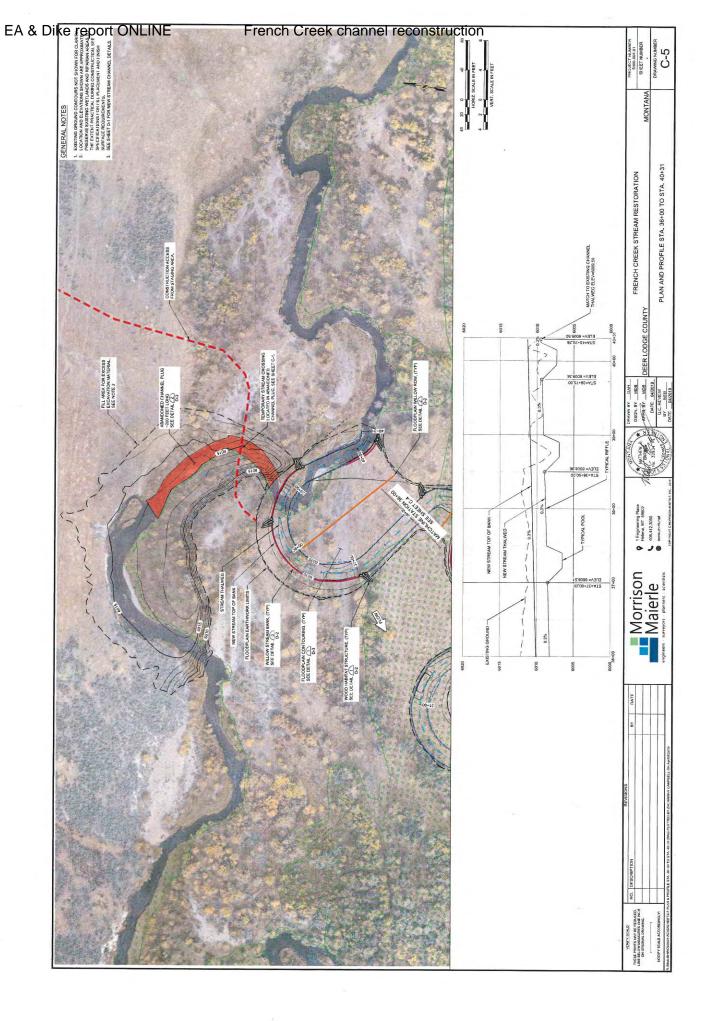


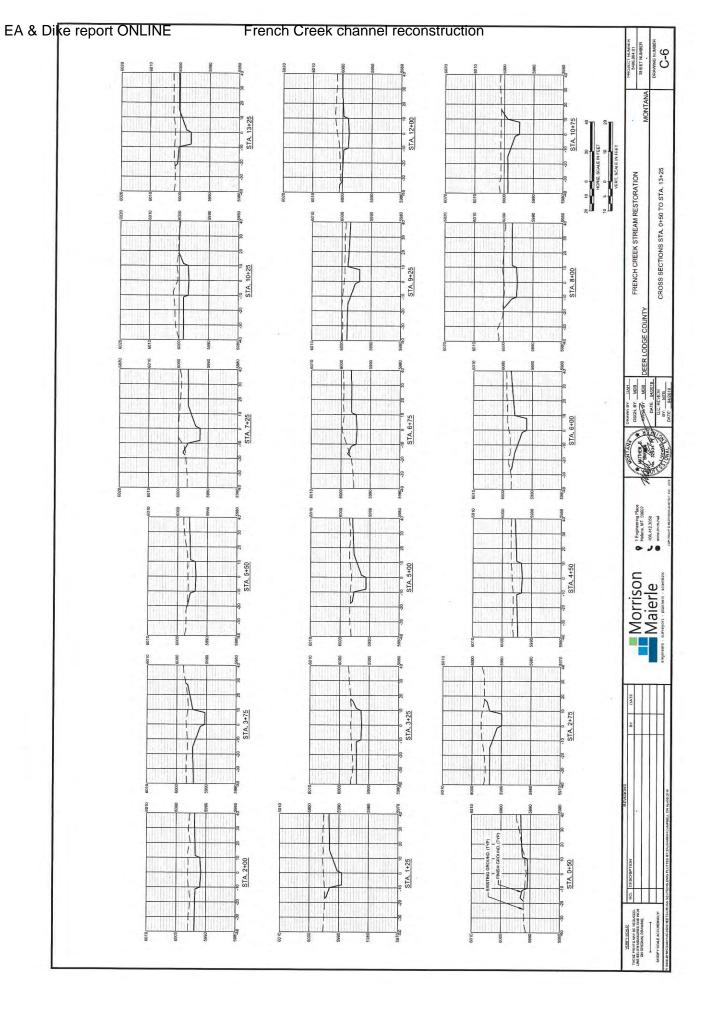


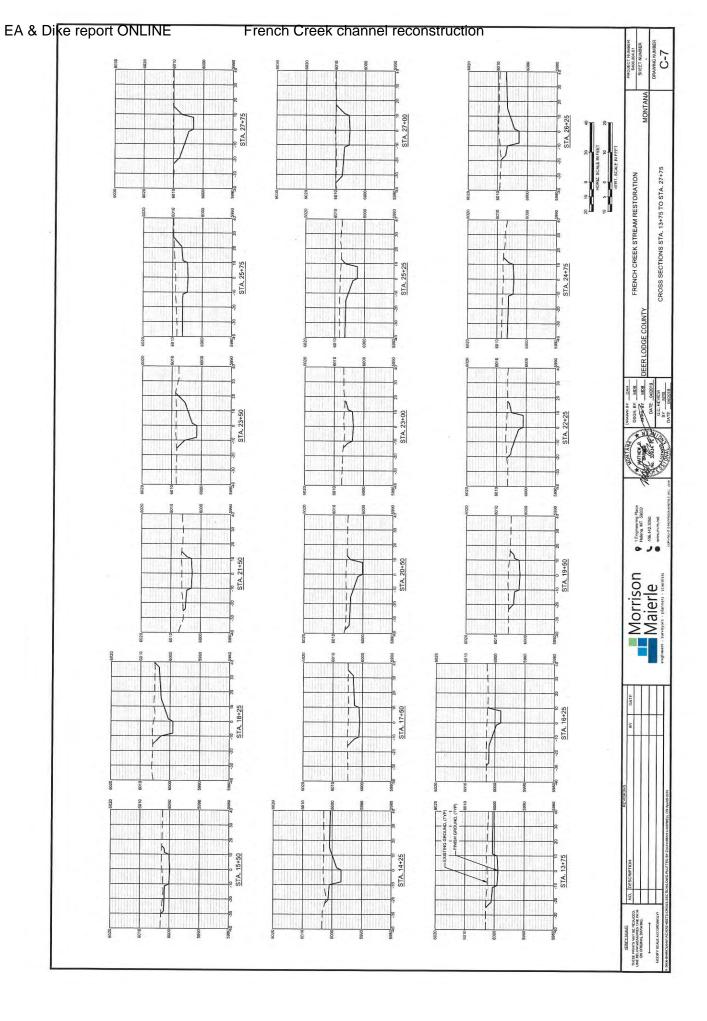


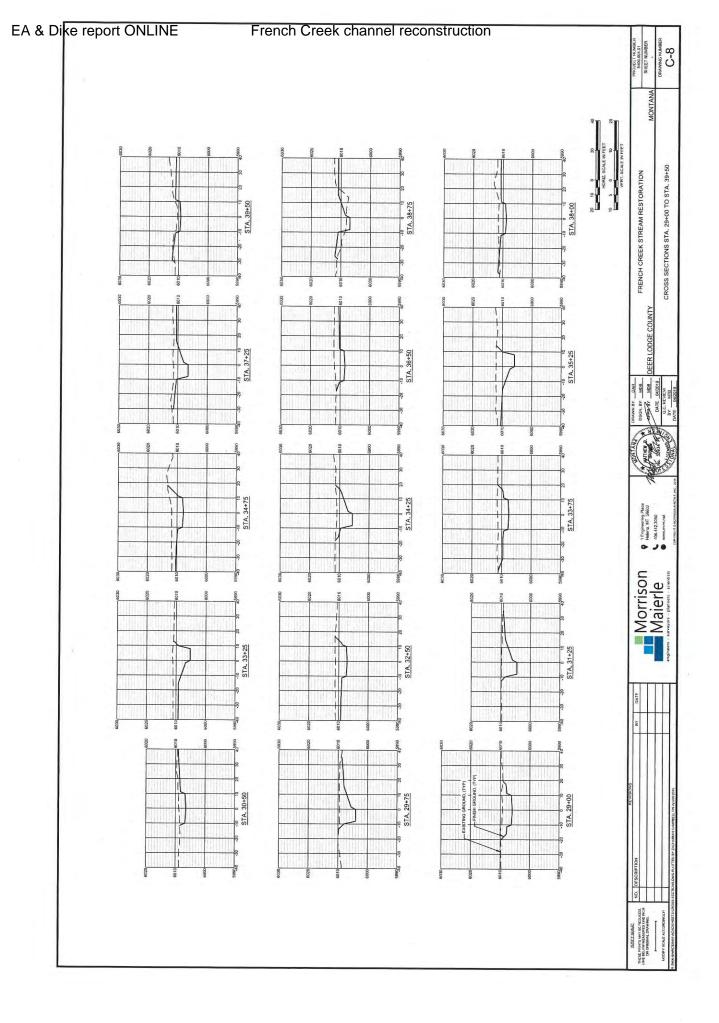


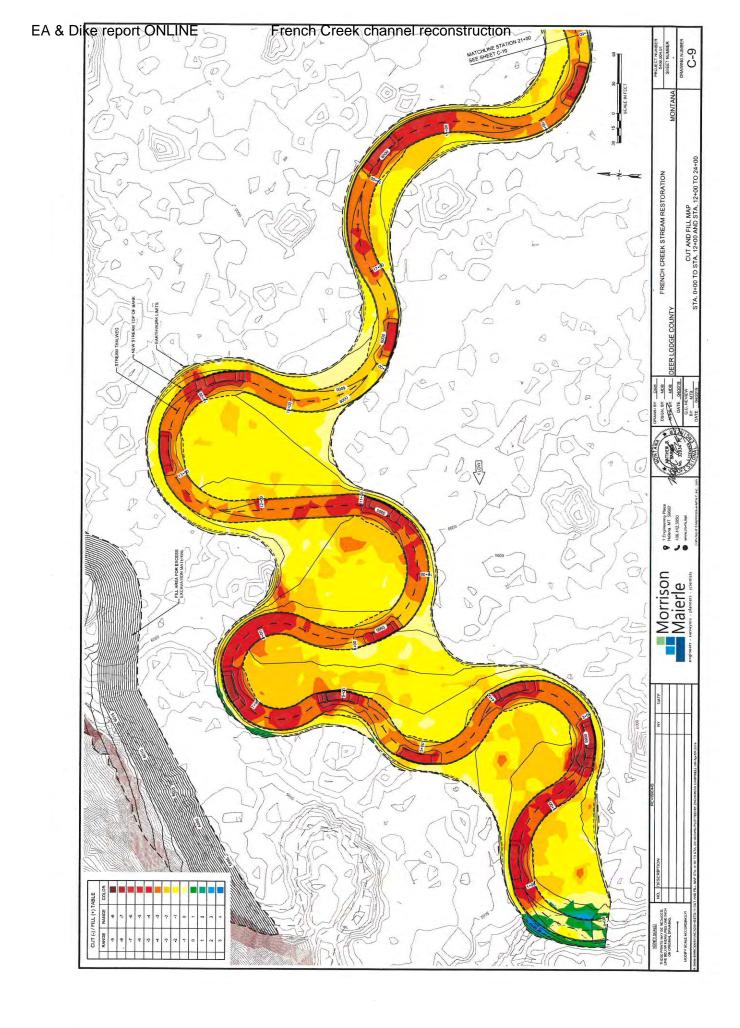


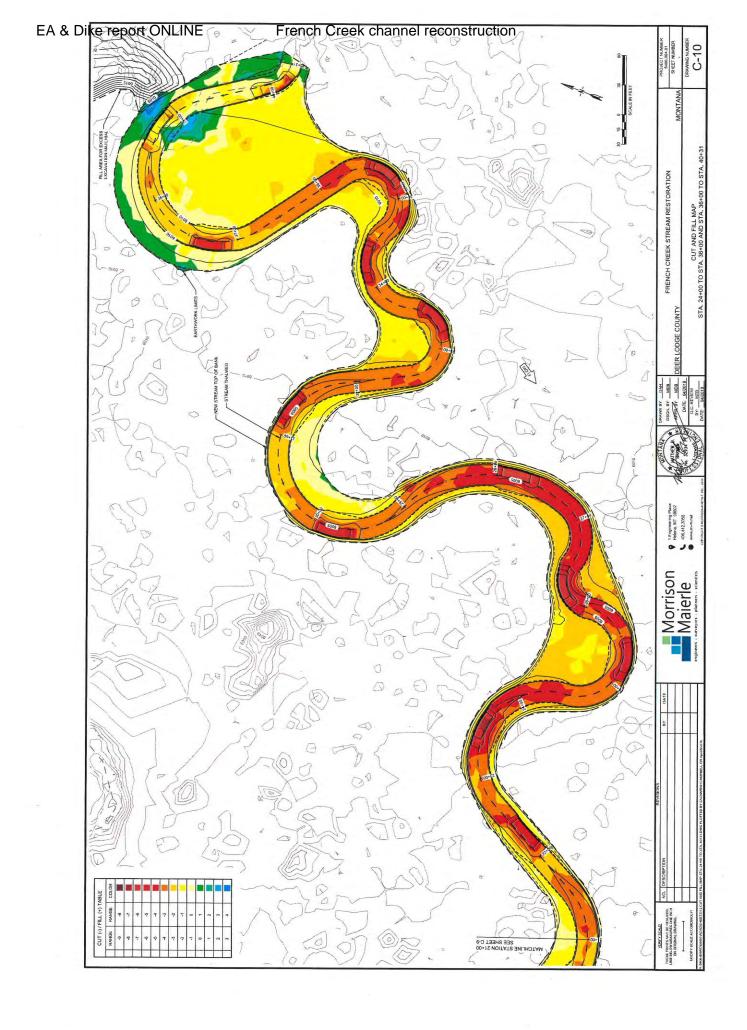


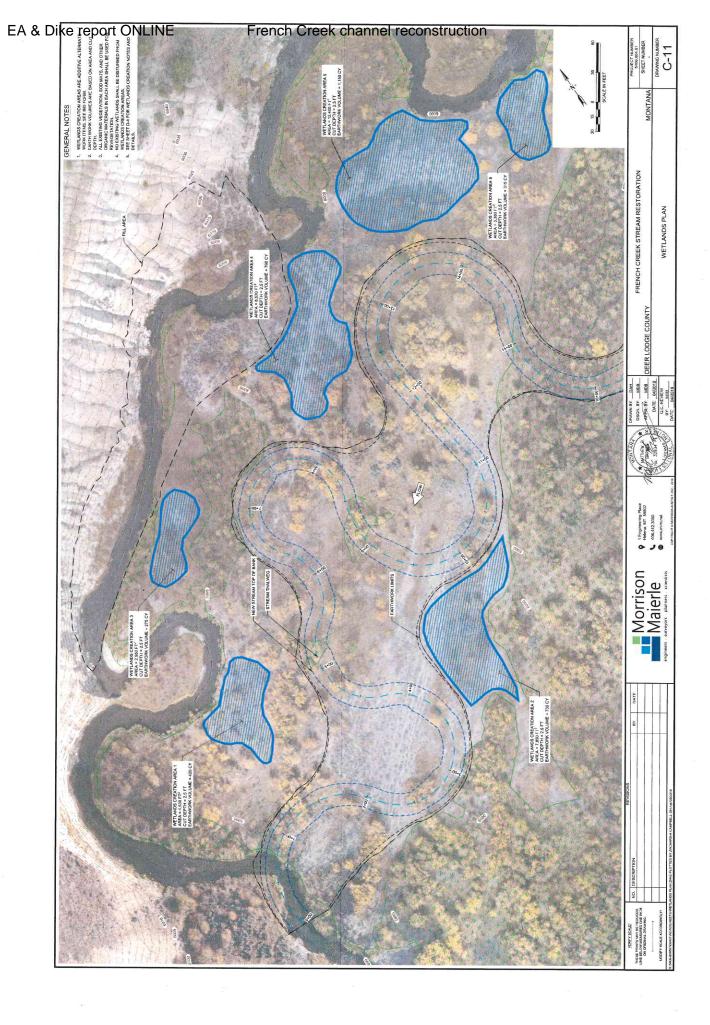


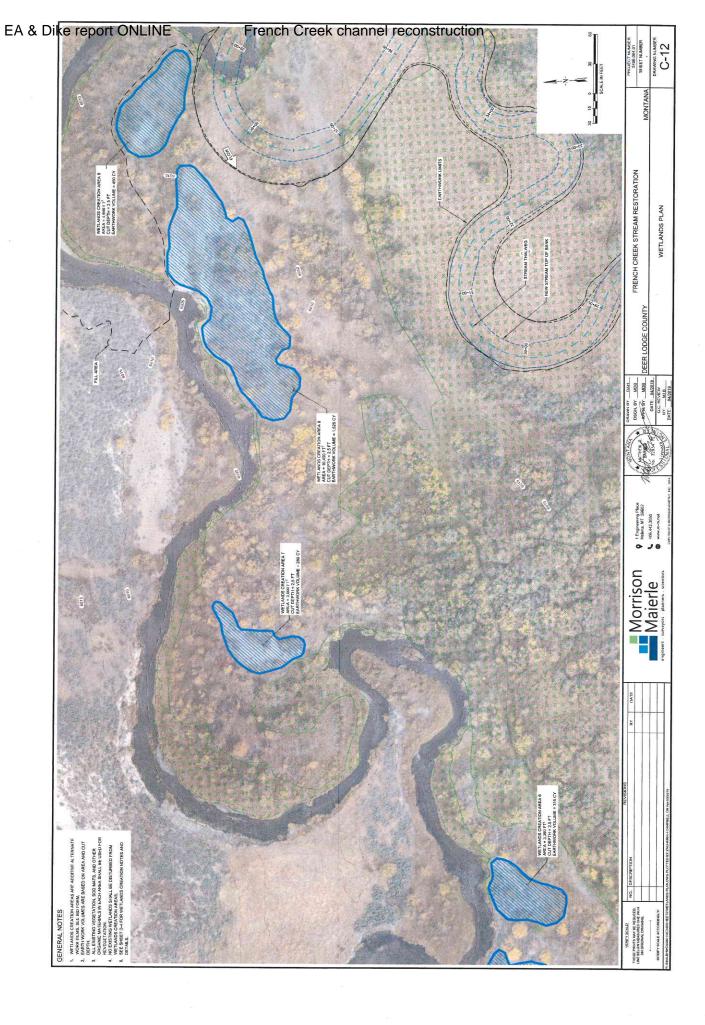


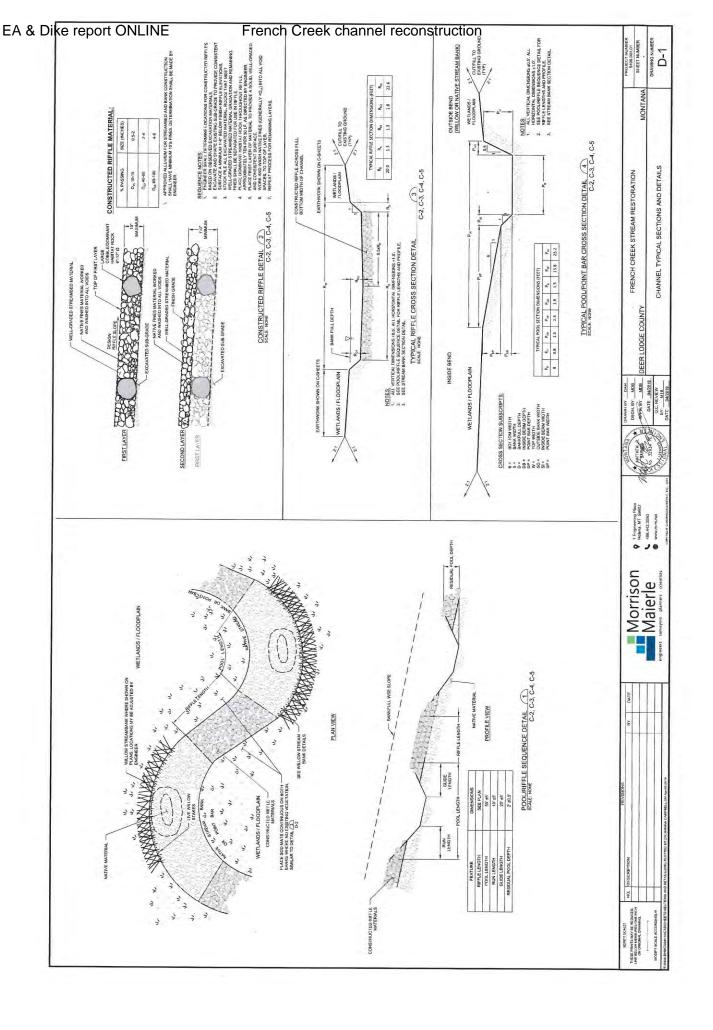


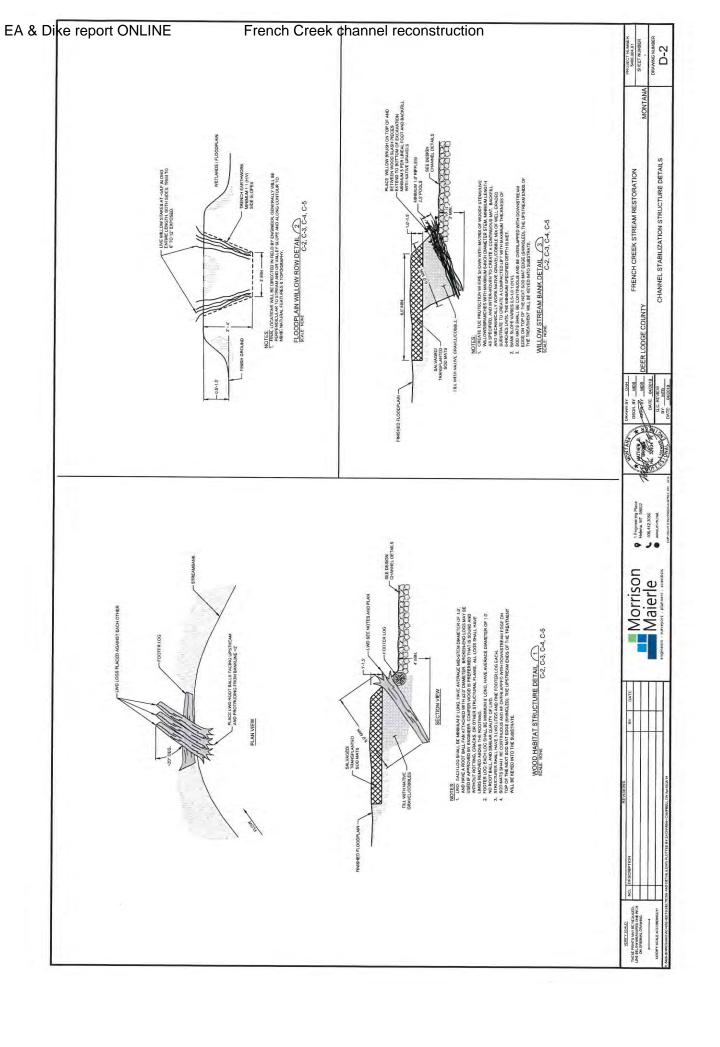


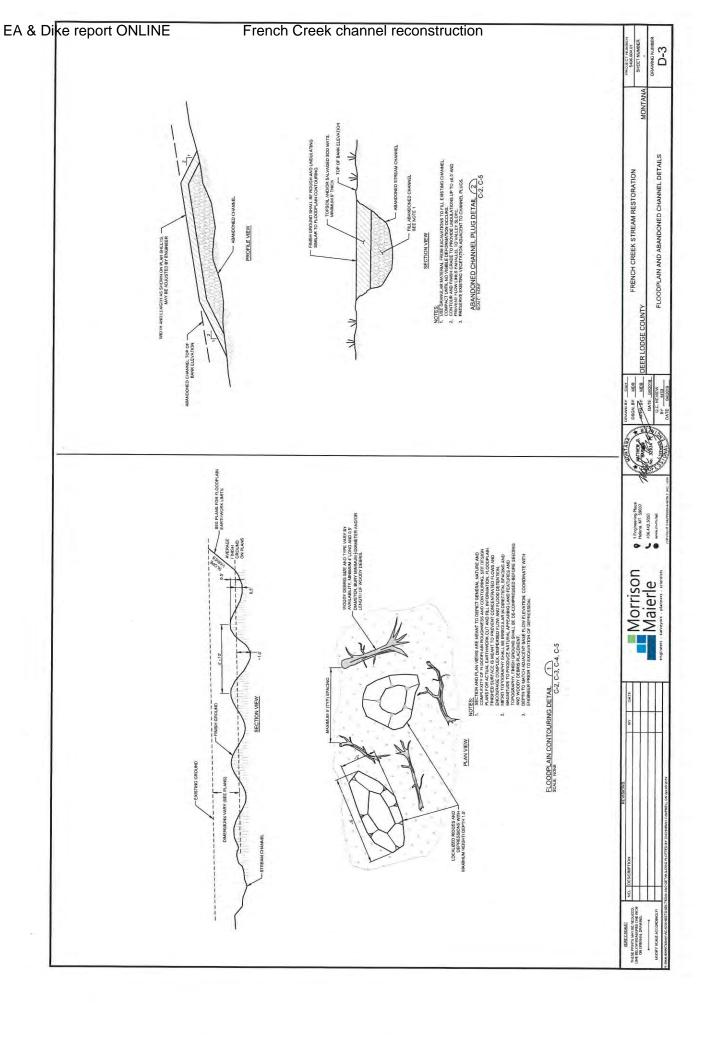












PLANTING SPECIFICATIONS PER ZONE

EMERGENT WETLANDS (FLOODPLAIN) ZONES

EMERGENT WETLAND TREATMENTS SHALL INCLUDE SOD MAT TRANSPLANTS FROM AREAS OF STREAM CONSTRUCTION THROUGH EXISTING WEILANDS AND MATURE WILLOW TRANSPLANTS. THESE DETAILS AND NOTES APPLY TO BOTH WETLANDS WITHIN THE EARTHWORK FOR STREAM CONSTRUCTION SHOWN ON SHEETS C-2 TO C-5 AND THE CREATION WETLANDS AREAS SHOWN ON THE WETLANDS PLAN SHEETS C-11 TO C-13.

 CREATION EMERGENT WETLANDS
 THESE WETLANDS ARE CREATED FROM UPLAND (NONWETLAND) AREAS BY EXCAVATING
 ACCORDING TO THE CUT AND FILL MAP (C-9 & C-10). THESE CREATED EMERGENT WETLANDS SHALL BE VEGETATED USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

A). 50% WETLAND SOD: (SEEDING BY OWNER)
 CHECKERBOARD

B). 100% SOD MATS: THE ENTIRE CREATED WETLAND WILL BE REVEGETATED USING SOD MATS AS PREVIOUSLY REFERENCED.

TRANSPLANTED MATERIALS

MATURE WILLOWS:

1. MATURE WILLOWS WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA SHALL BE TRANSPLANTED TO PROVIDE LARGE.

STATURE PLANTS WITH ESTABLISHED ROOT SYSTEMS.

2. WILLOW TRANSPLANTS SHALL BE PLANTED THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT.

3. THE MATURE WILLOWS SHALL BE EXCAVATED FROM THERE EXISTING LOCATIONS AND PLACED DIRECTLY IN TRANSPLANT HOLES.

WETLAND SOD MATS EMERGENT WETLAND SOD MATS PRIMARILY COMPRISED OF SEDGE SPECIES WILL BE USED TO PROVIDE ESTABLISHED ROOTED VEGETATION WITHIN EMERGENT WETLANDS AND ALONG STREAMBANKS.

WILLOW COLLECTION / PLANTING

WILLOW POLE AND BRUSH COLLECTION METHODS:

1. COLLECT WILLOW STEMS DURING DORMANT SEASON PRIOR (PREFERABLE) TO BUD BREAK (MARCH-APRIL) OR AFTER LEAF FALL ONCE PLANT IS DORMANT AND PLANT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

WETLANDS/FLOODPLAIN: REMOVE ALL LATERAL SIDE BRANCHES FROM THE STEMS WITH HAND PRUNERS.

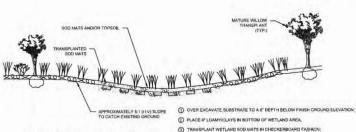
STREAMBANK: DO NOT REMOVE SIDE BRANCHES.

3. HARVESTING: SEE SPECIFICATIONS FOR HARVESTING AND STORAGE REQUIREMENTS.

4. INSTALL WILLOW POLES ALONG ALL STREAMBANKS JUST ABOVE TOP OF BANK LOCATED EITHER SATURATED SOIL DURING LOW WATER OR IN CONTACT WITH GROUNDWATER DURING THE

. SPACING. SPACING FOR WILLOW POLES WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 5-10 FEET THROUGHOUT THE WETLANDS/FLOODPLAIN. $\bigcap_{D,d}$

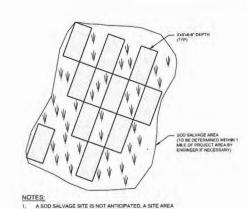
B). SPACING FOR WILLOW BRUSH ON STREAMBANKS SEE DETAIL.



EMERGENT WETLANDS DETAIL 1 SCALE: NONE C-11, C-12, C-13

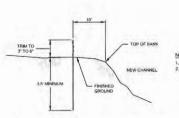
UPLAND RESTORATION NOTES:

1. UPLAND AREAS THAT HAVE BEEN DISTURBED AS A RESULT OF CONSTRUCTION WILL REQUIRE RESTORATION. SEE SPECIFICATIONS.



- WILL BE DETERMINED NEAR THE PROJECT IF REQUIRED.
 STRIP SOD FROM THE SALVAGE SITE IN A CHECKERBOARD
 FASHION (APPROX. 5 FEET LONG, 3 FEET WIDE, 6 TO 8-INCH
- DO NOT REMOVE MORE THAN 50% OF THE SOD FROM A SALVAGE SITE.

SOD SALVAGE AND RESTORATION - PLAN VIEW 3 SCALE: NONE C-11, C-12, C-13



INSTALLATION LENGTH = 3 FEET MINIMUM. DIAMETER - X TO 1 INCH WITH DIBBLE BAR OR STINGER CREATE 3-FT DEEP HOLE, BOTTOM OF HOLE SHOULD BE MINIMUM 6 INCHES BELOW GROUNDWATER TABLE.

WILLOW POLE PLANTING CROSS SECTION 2
SCALE: NONE C-11, C-12, C-13

VERIFY SCALE!		REVISIONS	7,117	
THESE PRINTS MAY BE RESUCED.	NO.	DESCRIPTION	BŸ	DATE
ON ORIGINAL DRAWING.				
-				
MODIFY SCALE ACCORDINGLYS				







	THE CAR CALLEY WE ARREST WAS ANY THE WAY
	FRENCH CREEK STREAM RESTORATION
ER LODGE COUNTY	

FLOODPLAIN AND WETLAND TYPICAL SECTIONS AND DETAILS

D-4